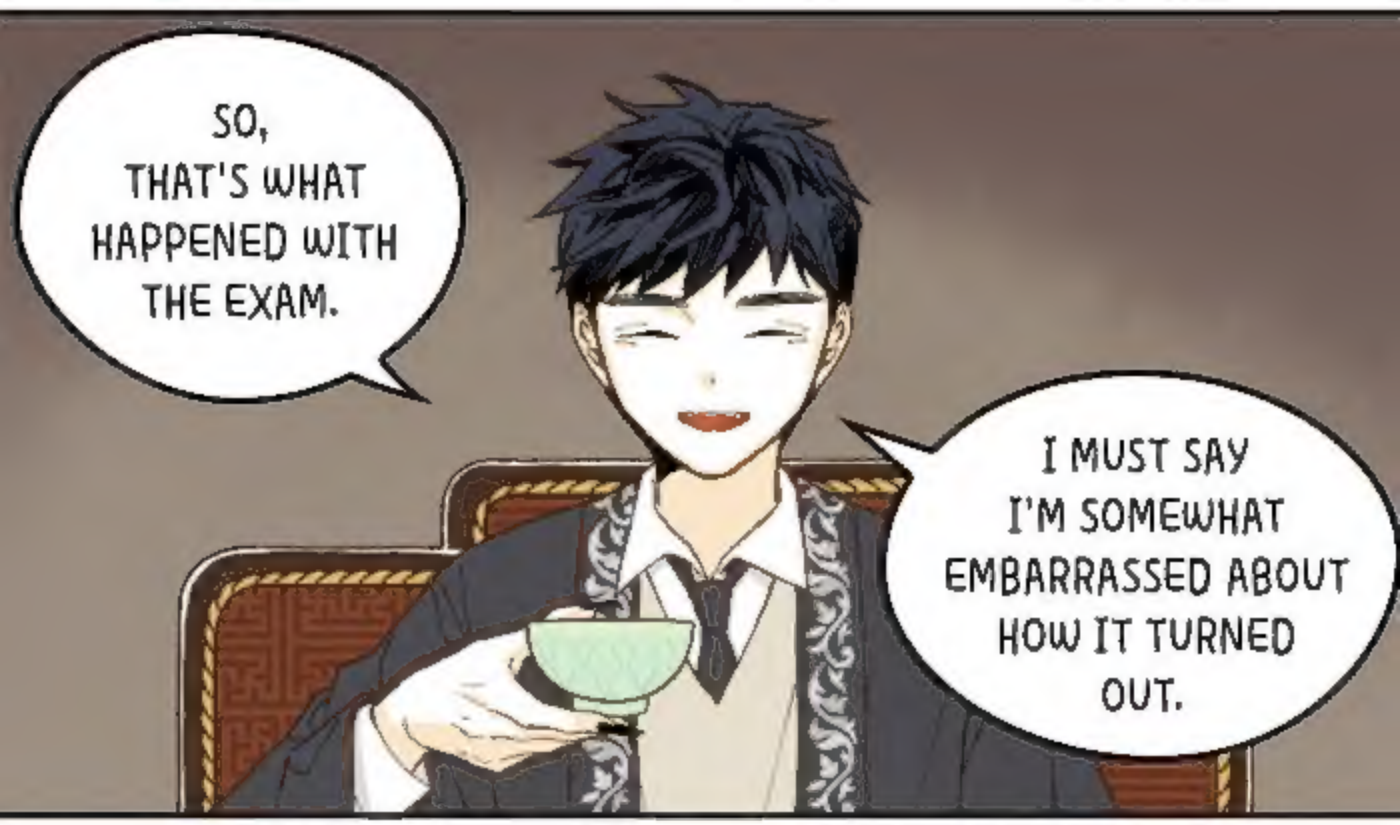
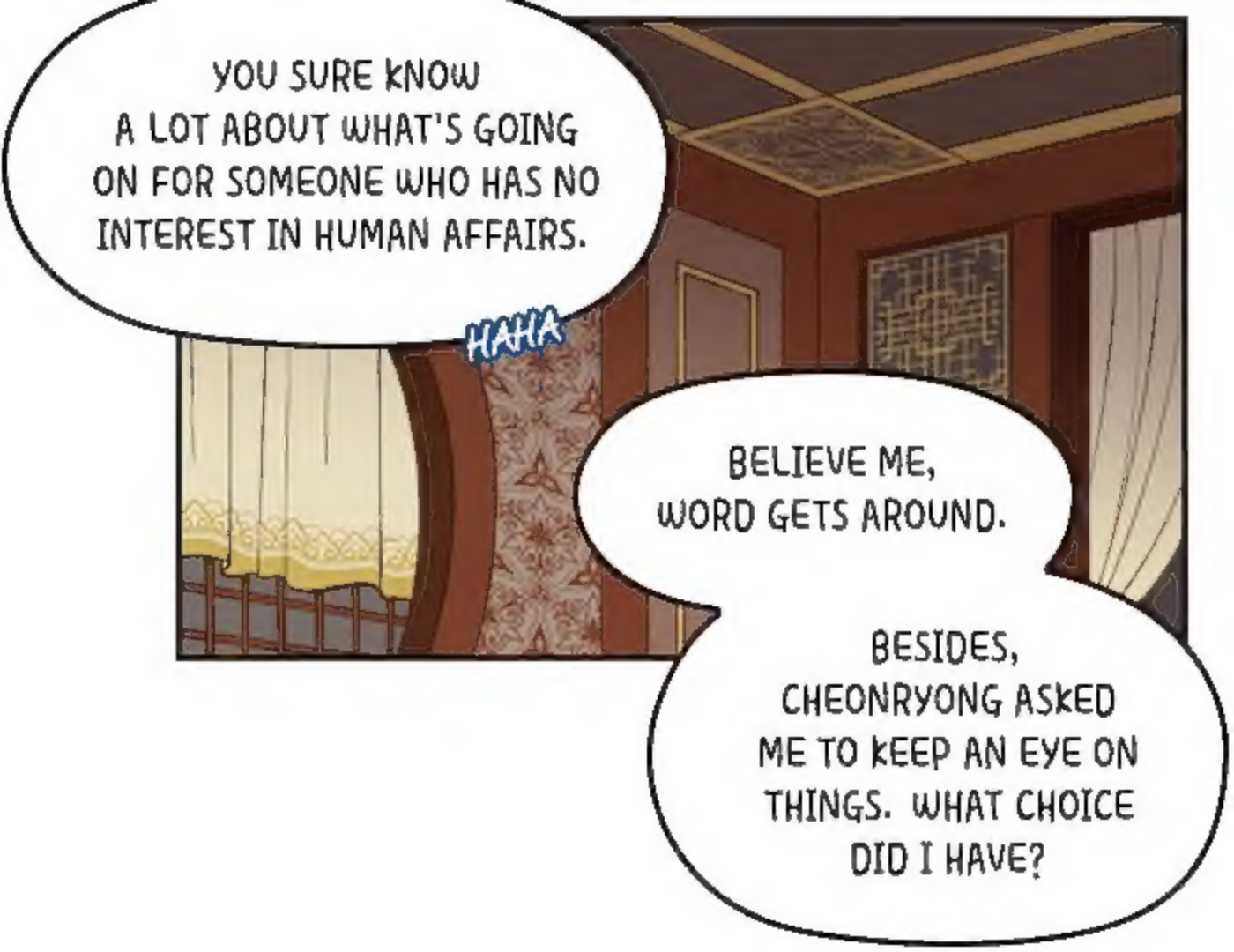

SO,
THAT'S WHAT
HAPPENED WITH
THE EXAM.
I MUST SAY
I'M SOMEWHAT
EMBARRASSED ABOUT
HOW IT TURNED
OUT.

YOU'RE FAR
TOO LENIENT.

YOU COULD'VE JUST TAKEN BACK WHAT YOU SAID.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GRANTED SUCH A REQUEST.
AND THAT FINAL QUESTION... REALLY, NOW.
TAP
THE ANSWER COULD HAVE BEEN ANYTHING, NO?

YOU MUST BE VERY FOND OF THAT IMOOGI AND HIS ASSISTANT.


YOU SURE KNOW A LOT ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS NO INTEREST IN HUMAN AFFAIRS.
HAHA
BELIEVE ME, WORD GETS AROUND.
BESIDES, CHEONRYONG ASKED ME TO KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS. WHAT CHOICE DID I HAVE?

THAT FINAL QUESTION...
YOU'RE RIGHT, THE ANSWER COULD HAVE BEEN ANYTHING.

I JUST WANTED TO SEE WHAT HE WOULD SAY.

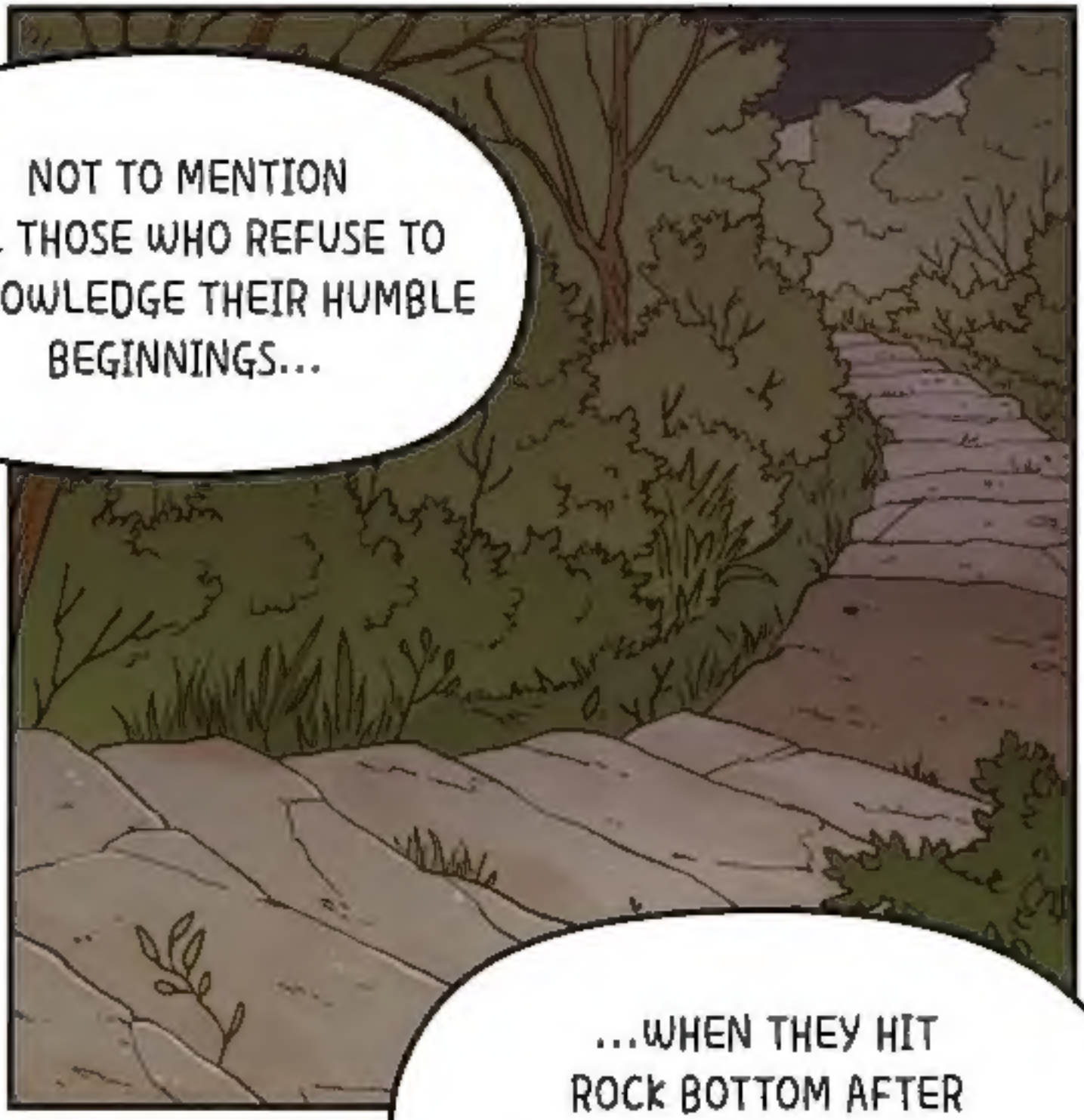
I WOULD HAVE ACCEPTED WHATEVER ANSWER HE GAVE, NO MATTER WHAT IT WAS.

HOWEVER, HE SURPRISED ME BY PICKING THE ONE THING I NEVER EXPECTED HIM TO.

YOU MEAN SNAKES?
I DON'T SEE WHY YOU FOUND THAT ANSWER SO REMARKABLE...

IT'S HUMAN NATURE...
...TO MOVE FORWARD IN PURSUIT OF BETTER THINGS.

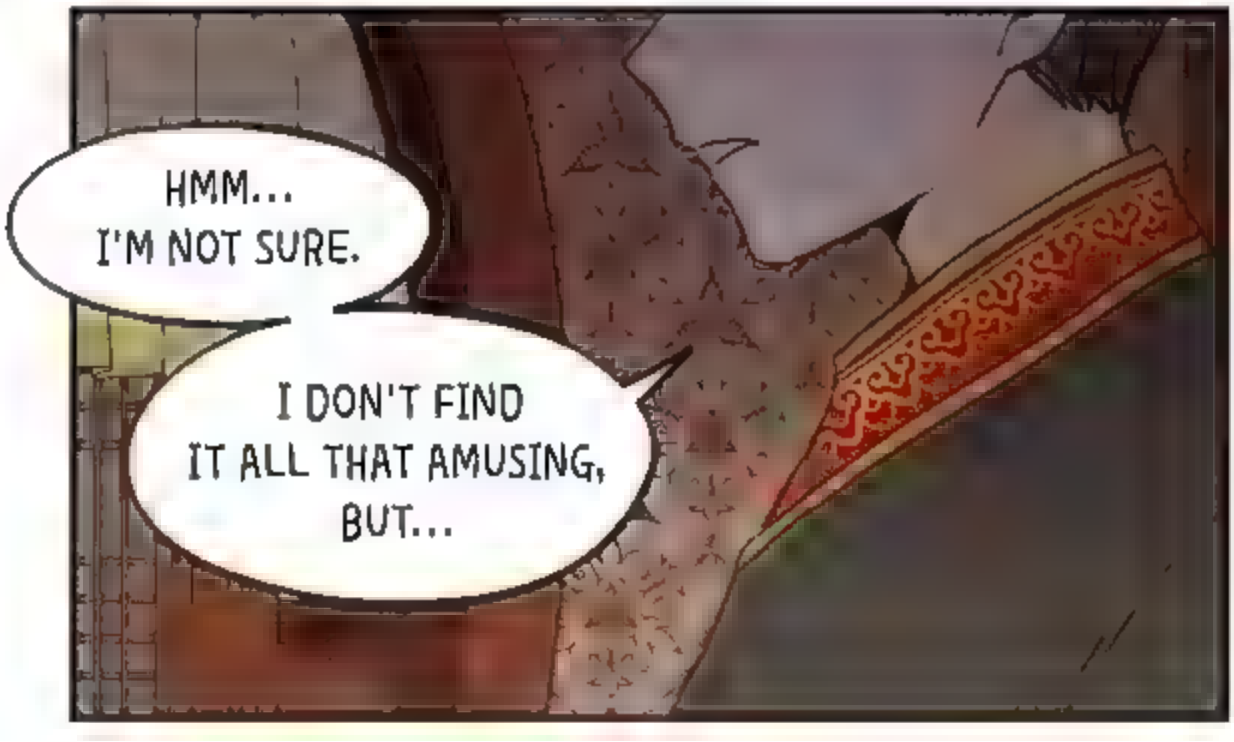
MOST HUMANS STRIVE TO MOVE UP IN THE WORLD, AND ONCE THEY EARN A NEW TITLE...
...THEY COULD CARE LESS ABOUT THEIR OLD ONES.


NOT TO MENTION ALL THOSE WHO REFUSE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR HUMBLE BEGINNINGS...
...WHEN THEY HIT ROCK BOTTOM AFTER HAVING FAILED TO REACH THEIR GOALS.

BUT BARI DIDN'T CALL HIMSELF A DRAGON, OR EVEN AN IMOOGI.
HE REFERRED TO HIMSELF AS A *SNAKE*.

ISN'T IT FASCINATING?
THE IMOOGI LOOK JUST LIKE US, YET AT THEIR CORE, THEY'RE MUCH MORE LIKE HUMANS.

BUT WHEN PUT ON THE SPOT...
...THEY RECALL THE VERY PART OF THEMSELVES THEY HAD TRIED TO LEAVE BEHIND.


HMM... I'M NOT SURE.
I DON'T FIND IT ALL THAT AMUSING, BUT...

BARI,
WAS IT NOT?
THE ONE YOU
HAVE YOUR EYES
ON?

I HEARD...
FREEZE
...HE'S GONE MISSING.

W-WHAT?
MISSING...?

How to become a dragon

- EPISODE 54 -

WHAT?
MISSING?

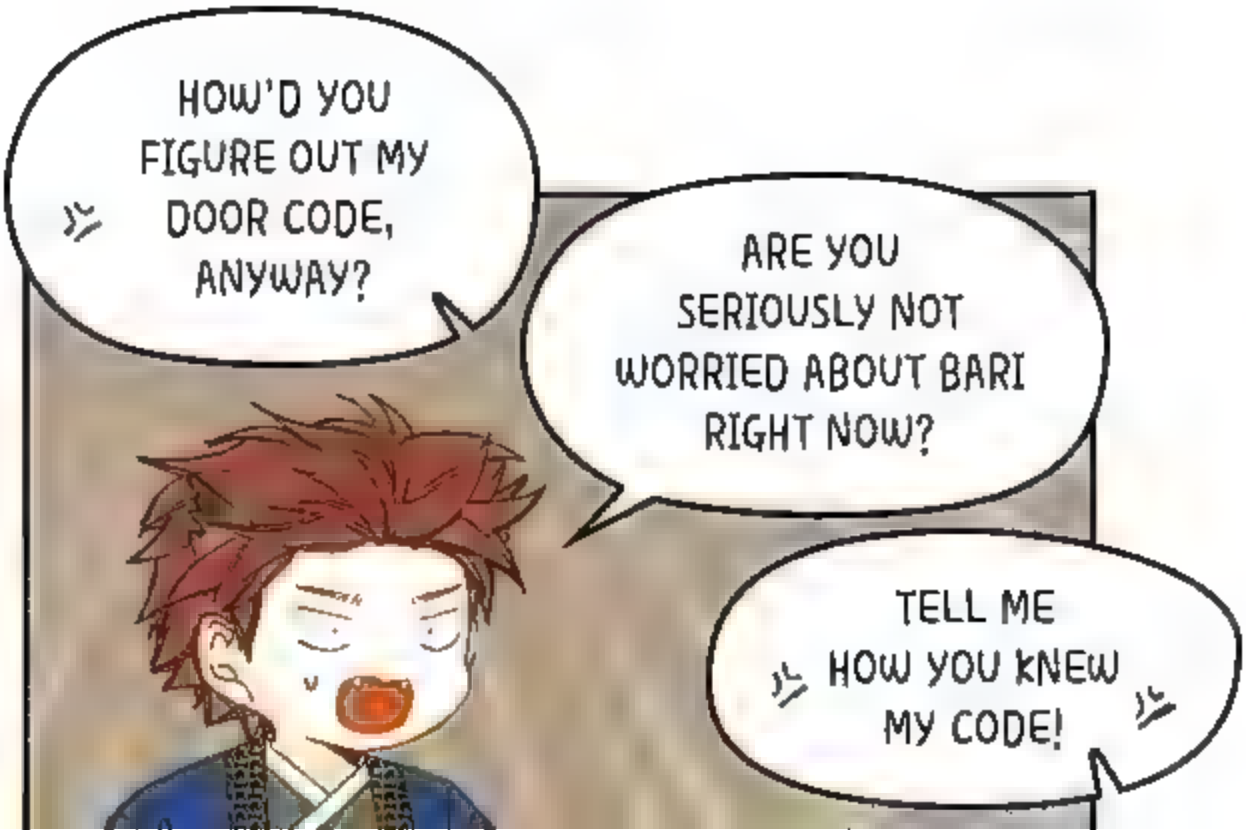
YEAH, AND RIGHT WHEN WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME. WHERE ON EARTH COULD HE BE?
DID HE NOT COME BACK AFTER THE EXAM?
I HEARD YOUNG CAME BACK ALONE.

NO, KWANGCHEOL TOLD ME THAT HE BROUGHT BARI BACK TO SEOUL.

HE DID?

HEY.

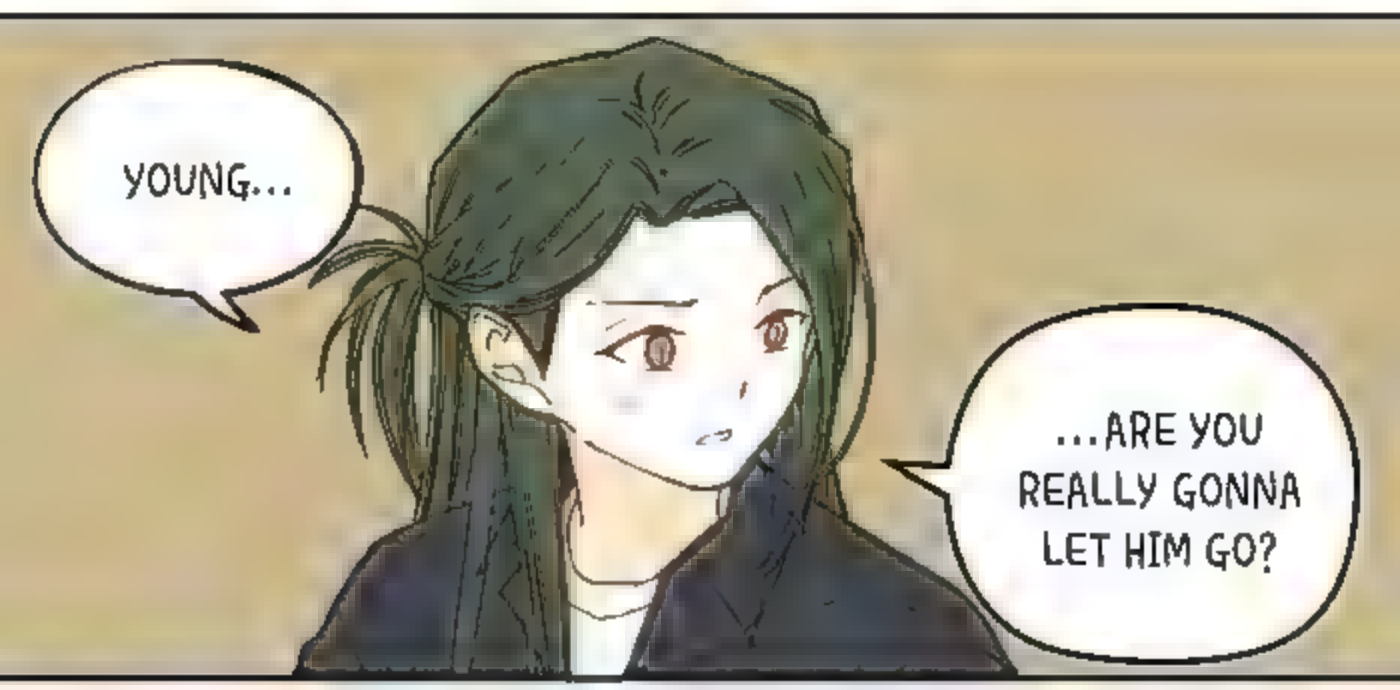
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN BARGE IN HERE WHENEVER YOU WANT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK MY HOUSE IS, A CAFE?


HOW'D YOU FIGURE OUT MY DOOR CODE, ANYWAY?
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY NOT WORRIED ABOUT BARI RIGHT NOW?
TELL ME HOW YOU KNEW MY CODE!

HOW CAN YOU BE SUCH A COLDHEARTED JERK WHEN HE CARED FOR YOU SO MUCH?
IT SAYS HERE A DRAGON MAY WRITE NO MORE THAN ONE RECOMMENDATION?
WE'RE GONNA NEED TO MOVE FAST.

I'M SURE DAMSEOL WILL WRITE BARI'S, SO...
I'M GONNA TRY MY LUCK WITH THE GEUM RIVER DRAGON.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, MIRI?

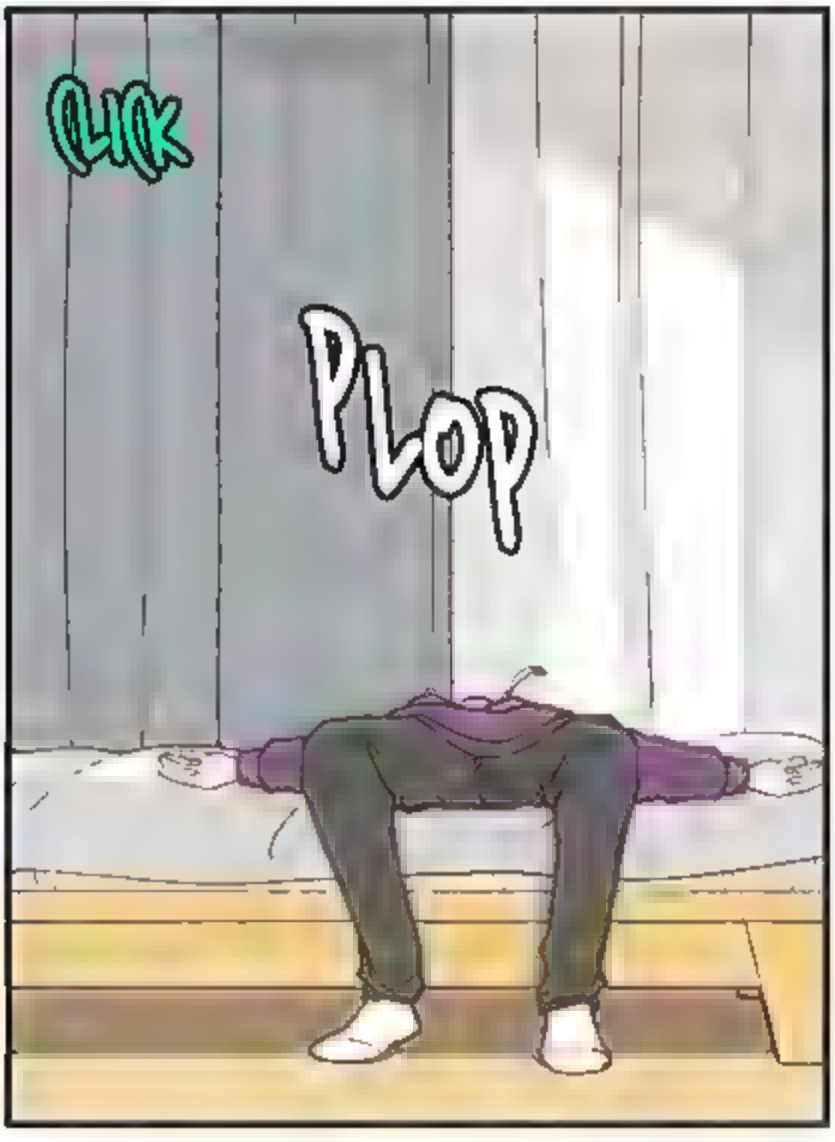
THEN I'LL HEAD TO SOYANG RIVER.
AND SINCE YOUNG HAS PLENTY OF TIME ON HIS HANDS, HE CAN GO LOOK FOR BARI!
SAYS WHO?

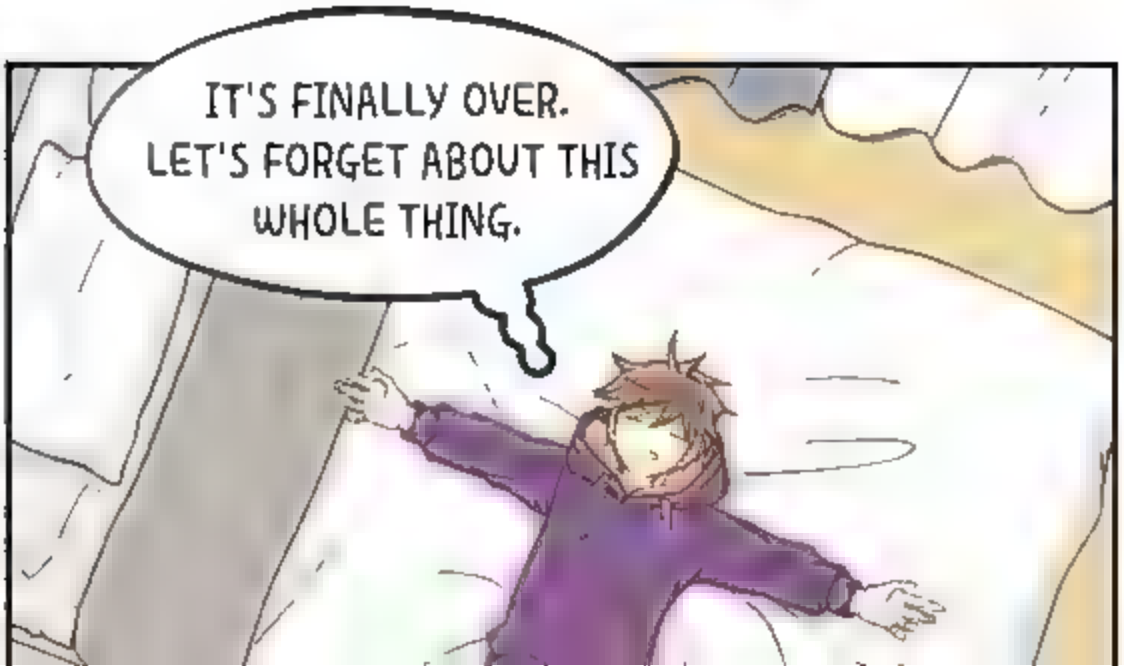

YOUNG...
...ARE YOU REALLY GONNA LET HIM GO?

IF HE'S DELIBERATELY GHOSTING US, DOESN'T THAT MEAN HE'S GIVEN UP ON THE EXAM?
IF HE DOESN'T WANNA DO IT, THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT THAT.

FINE, WHATEVER.
WE'RE LEAVING.
HUH?
WAIT, ARE WE REALLY GOING?

HEY, YOUNG--
SLAM


CLICK
PLOP


IT'S FINALLY OVER.
LET'S FORGET ABOUT THIS
WHOLE THING.

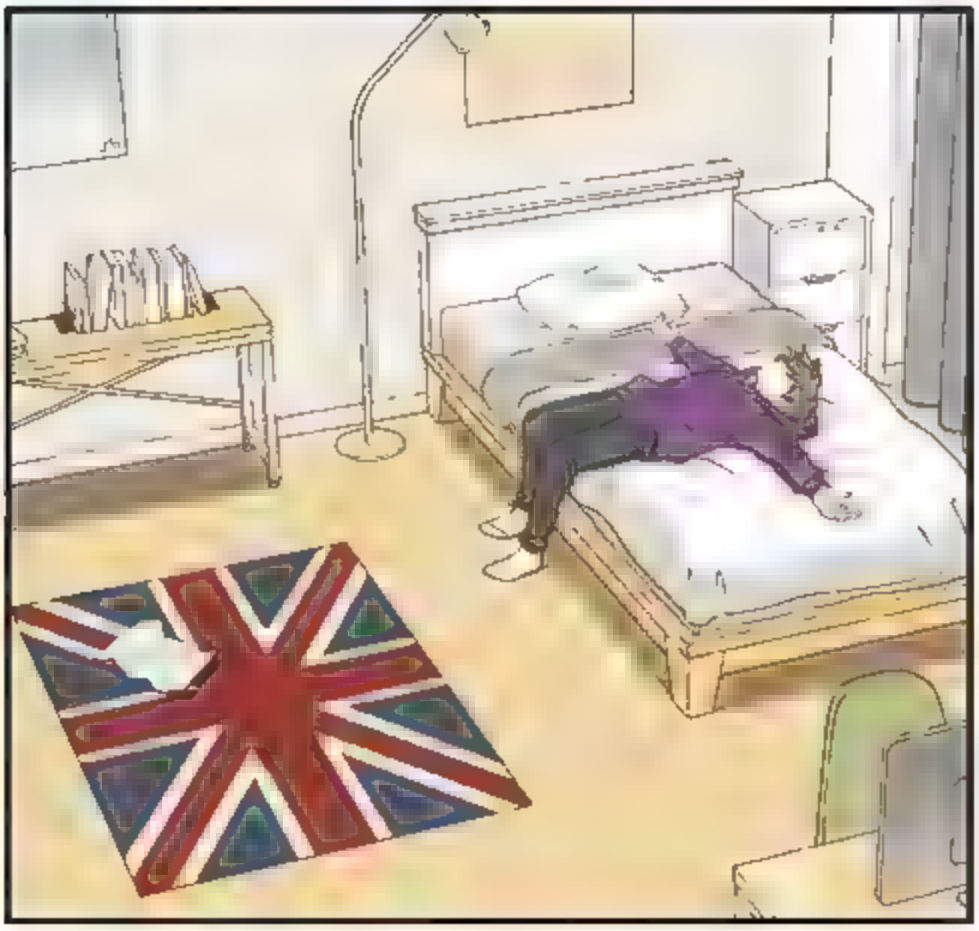
HE CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF. IT'S NOT LIKE HE'S GONNA GET INTO AN ACCIDENT...

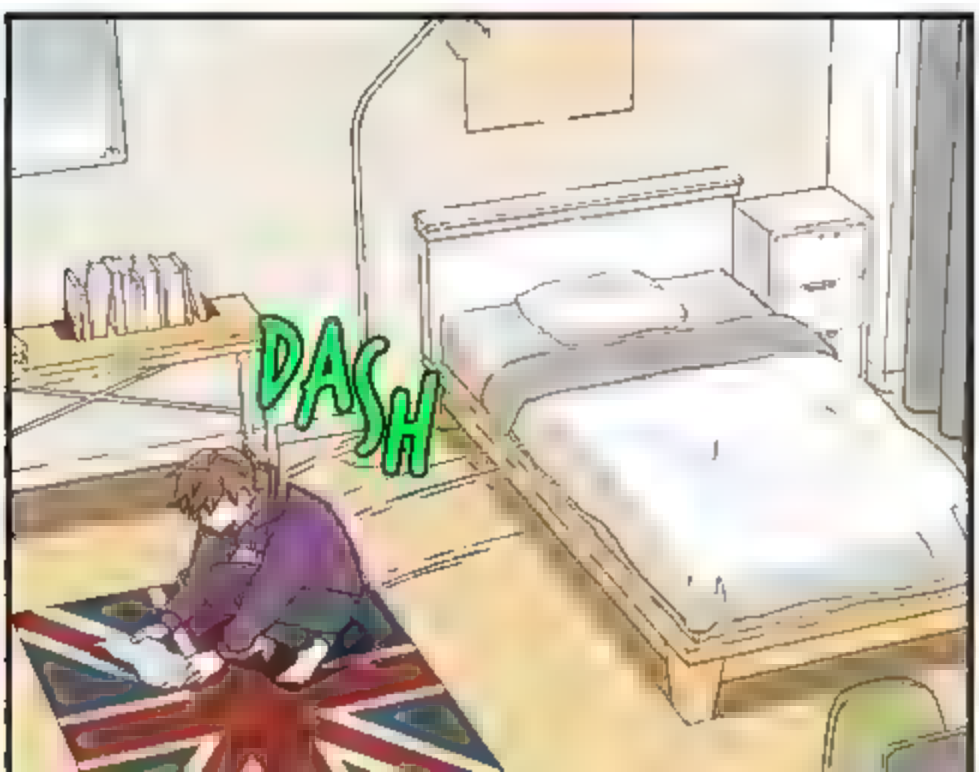
AN ACCIDENT? A CAR ACCIDENT...?

HE'S NOT SOME ROADKILL ON THE HIGHWAY, IS HE...?

WHAT IF HE GOT HIT BY A CAR LIKE I DID ON MY WAY TO THE INTERVIEW...
GAH!
BAM
...AND IS LYING UNCONSCIOUS IN SOME DITCH?

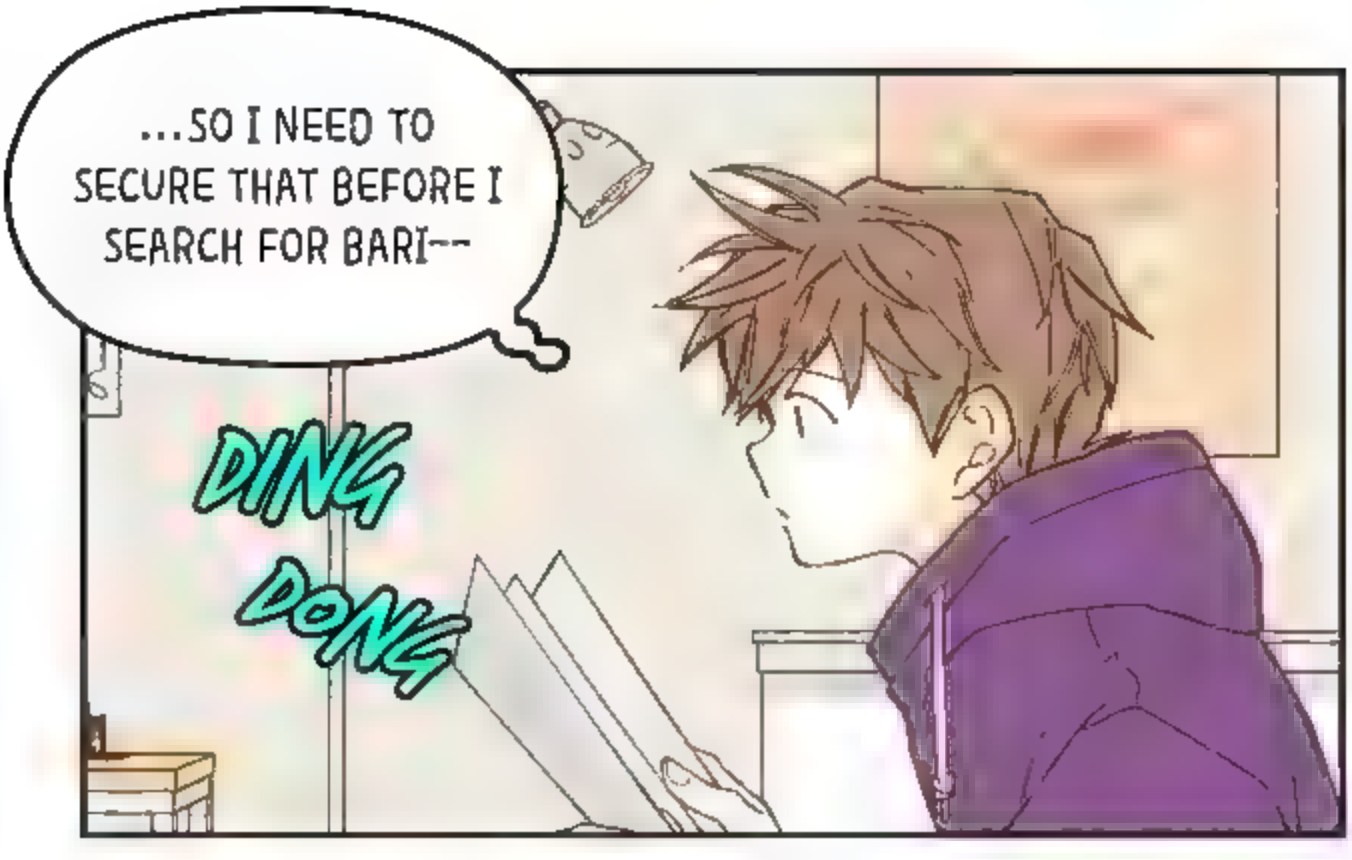
WHEN I WOKE UP IN THE HOSPITAL AFTER THE CRASH...
...IT WAS TWO DAYS AFTER THE INTERVIEW...
...AND THEY'D ALREADY PICKED OUT THE CANDIDATES THEY WANTED TO HIRE.




DASH

RECOMMENDATIONS ARE DUE THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW, AND THE EXAM WILL TAKE PLACE IN FIVE DAYS.
EXAM SITE IS TO BE ANNOUNCED?

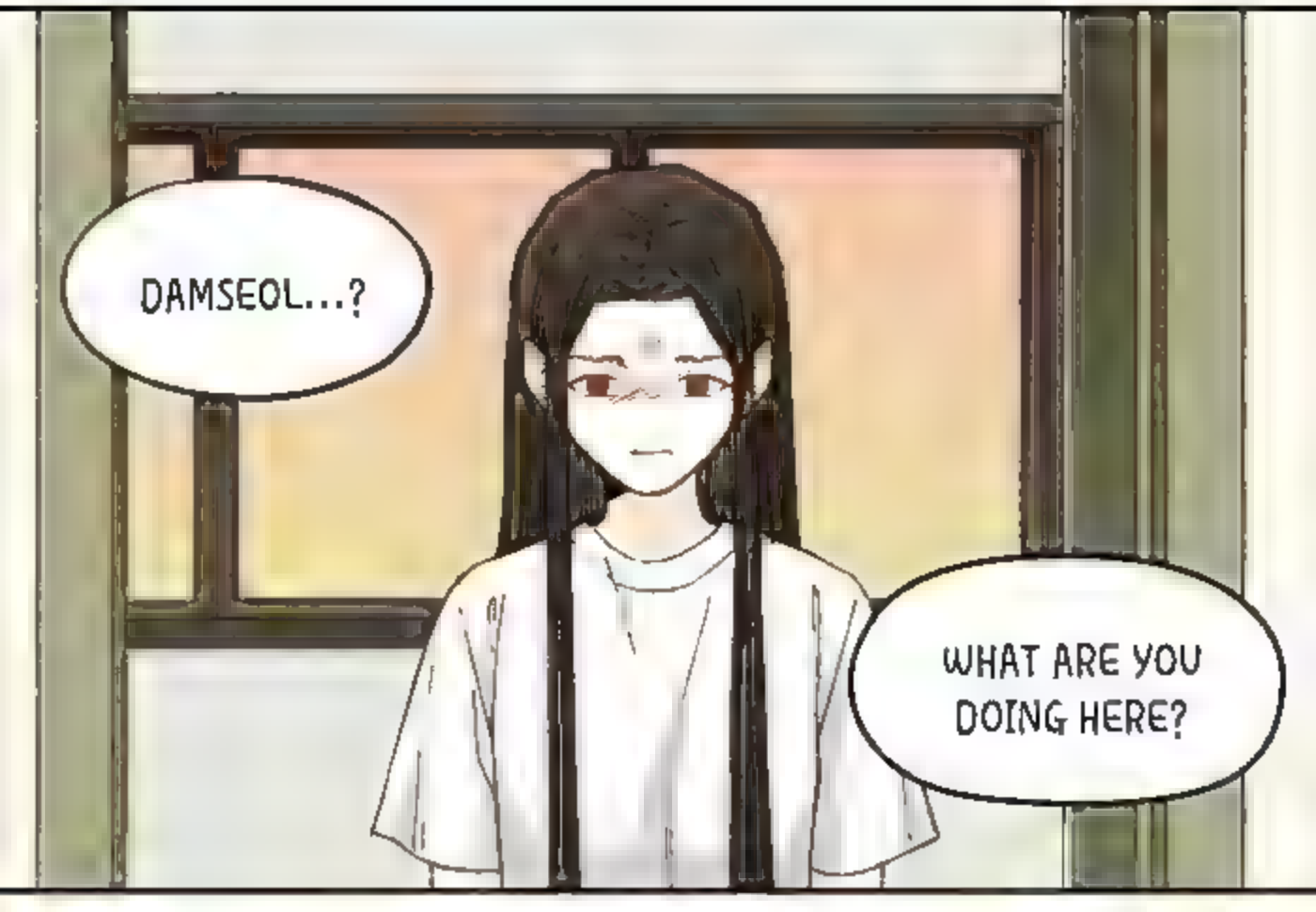
THAT'S NOT EVEN A WEEK AWAY!
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
THE RECOMMENDATION LETTER IS DUE IN TWO DAYS...


...SO I NEED TO SECURE THAT BEFORE I SEARCH FOR BARI--
DING DONG

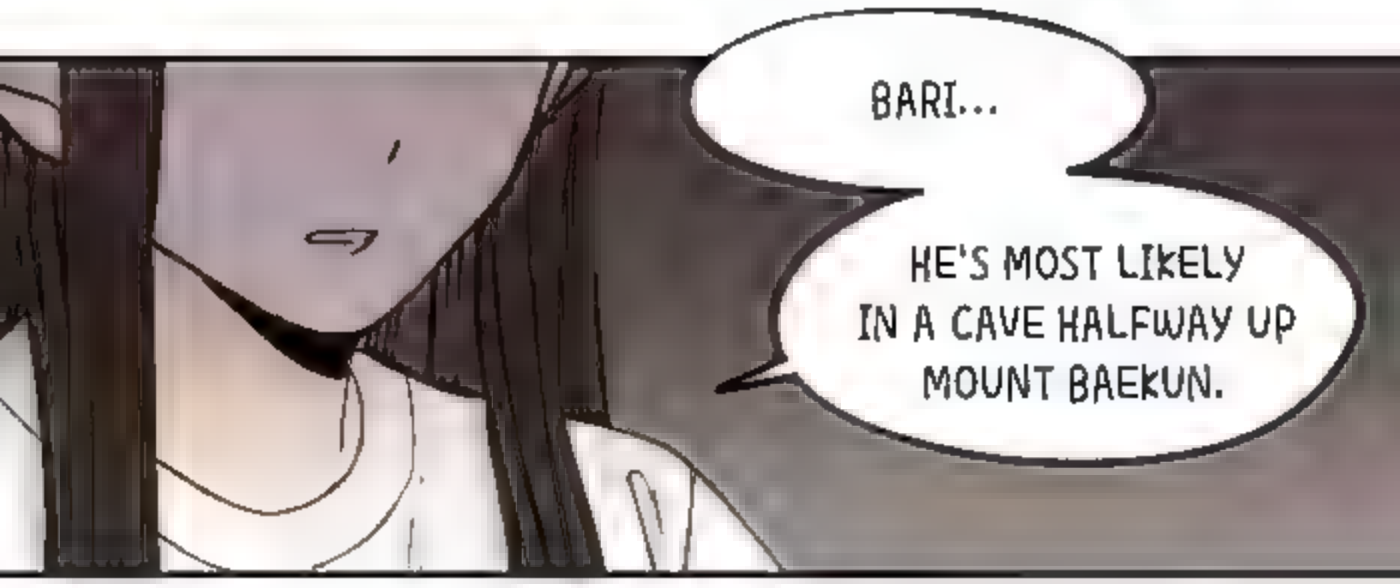
DING DONG
HUH?
DING DONG
DING DONG
ARE THEY BACK ALREADY?

I THOUGHT YOU KNEW THE CODE!
BURST
WHY ARE YOU RINGING THE--

HUH?


DAMSEOL...?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

DID YEONGNO AND MIRI TELL YOU TO COME...
...SO YOU CAN ASK ME TO FIND BARI?


BARI...
HE'S MOST LIKELY IN A CAVE HALFWAY UP MOUNT BAEKUN.

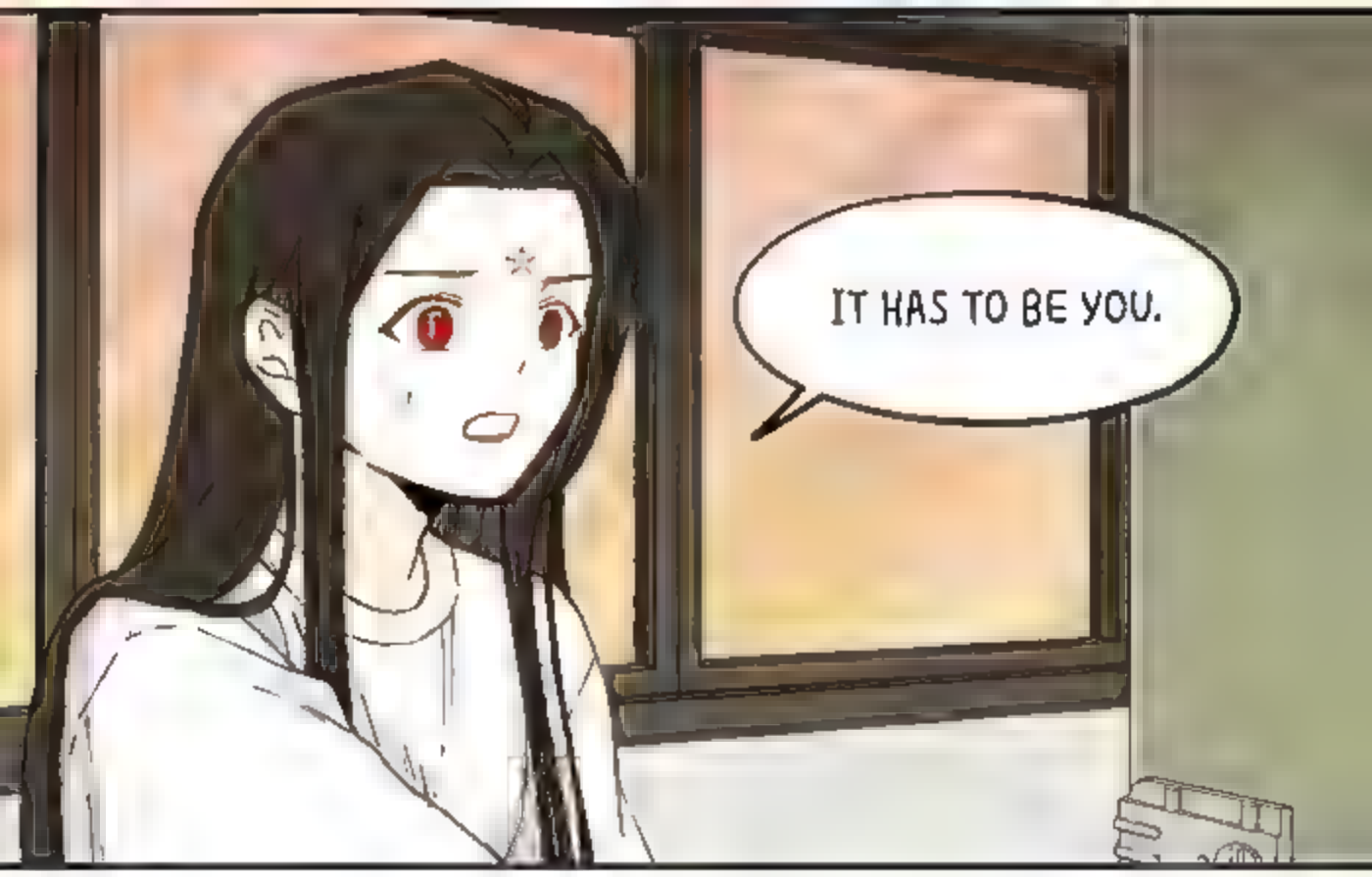
...?
IF YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS, WHY DON'T YOU GO FIND HIM YOURSELF?
WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS?

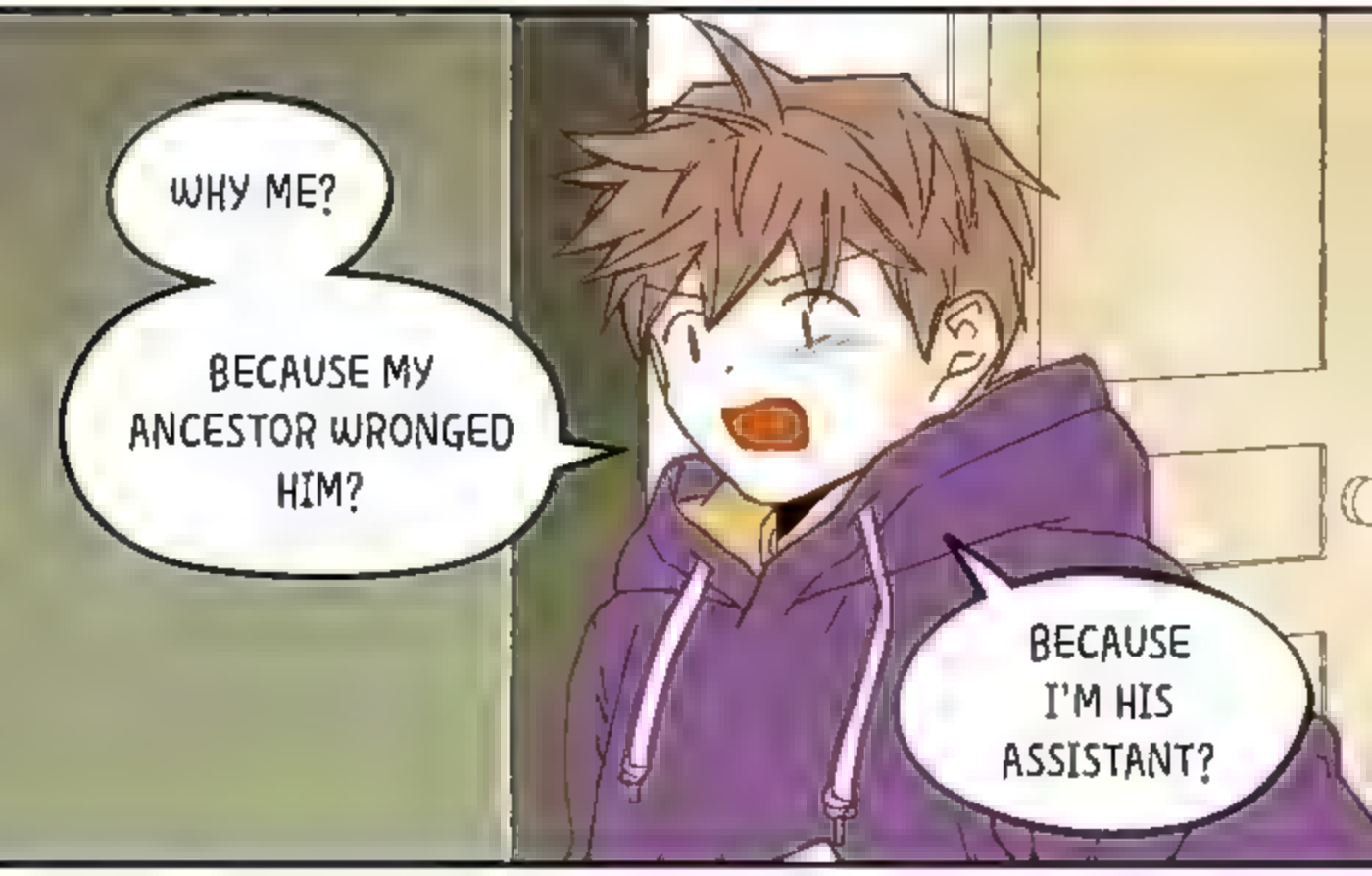
HE DOESN'T
WANT TO SEE ME.

HE'S
FURIOUS WITH ME,
ACTUALLY.

ARE WE TALKING ABOUT THE SAME BARI?
THE KID WHO WOULD DO ANYTHING TO MAKE OTHERS HAPPY?

PLEASE. YOU'RE ALL HE HAS.
NO! WHY IS EVERYONE COMING TO ME?
SEND ONE OF YOUR MINIONS AFTER HIM IF YOU'RE SO WORRIED! I'M NOT GOING!

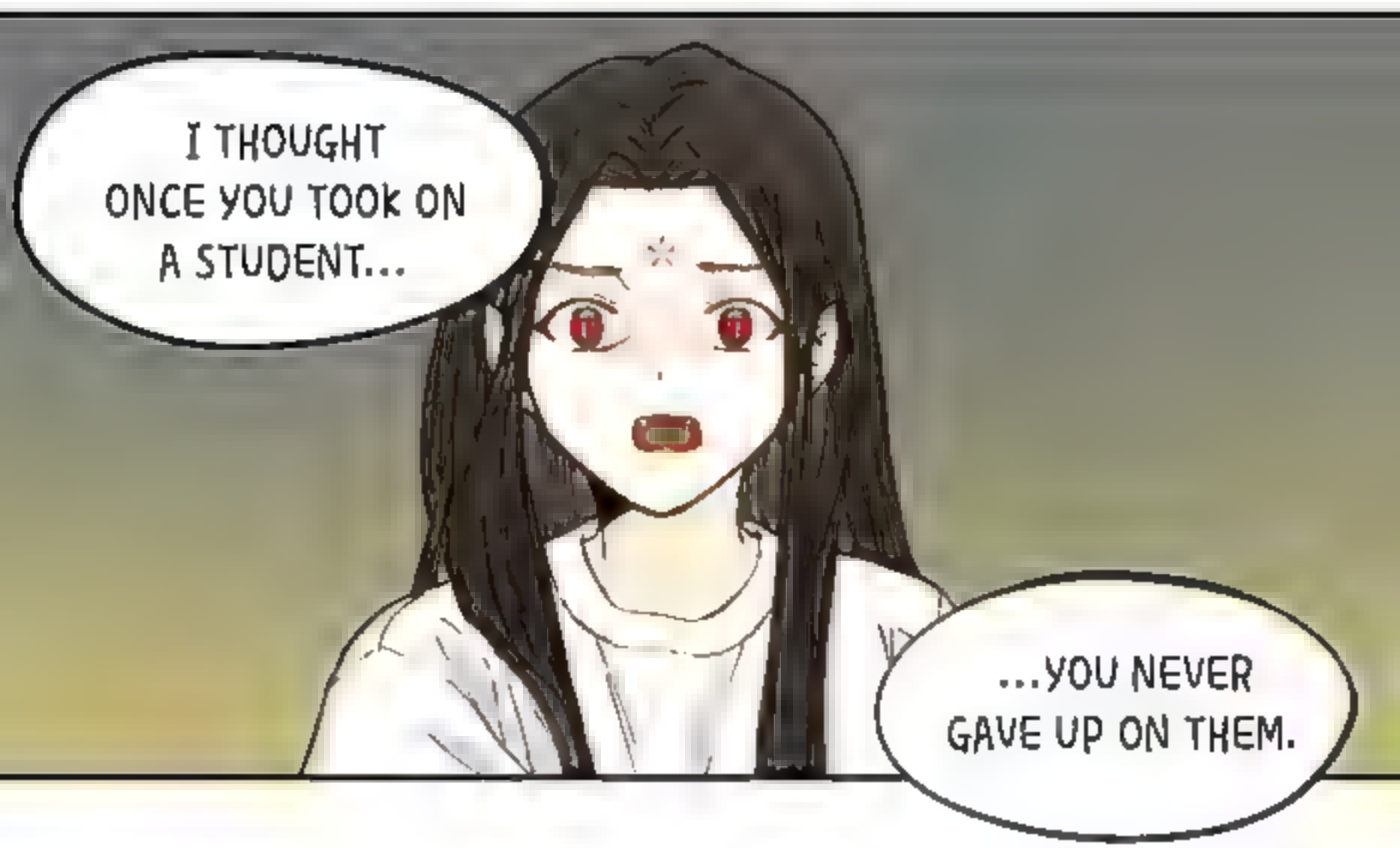

IT HAS TO BE YOU.

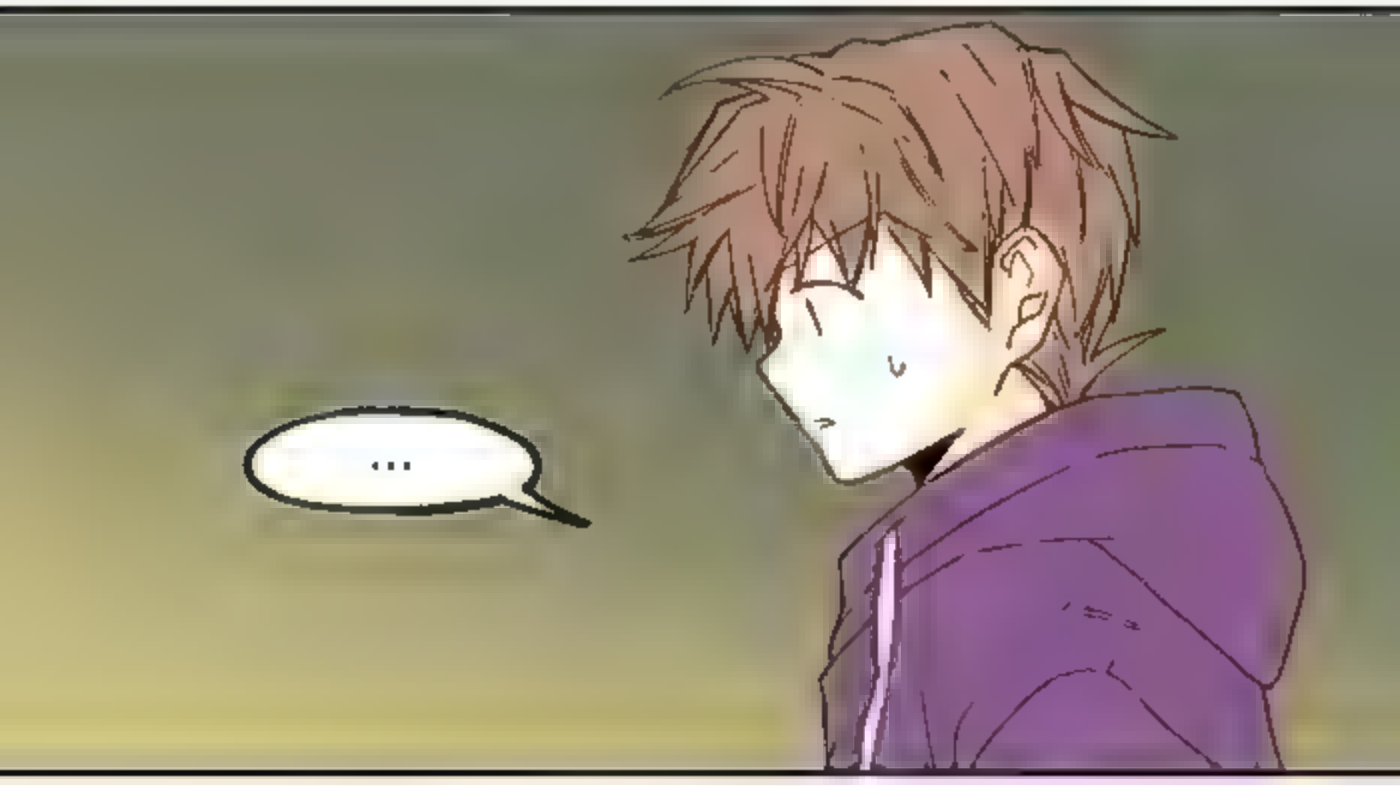

WHY ME?
BECAUSE MY ANCESTOR WRONGED HIM?
BECAUSE I'M HIS ASSISTANT?

YOUNG,

OF ALL THE PEOPLE BARI HAS CALLED FRIENDS...

...YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO HASN'T LET HIM DOWN.


I THOUGHT ONCE YOU TOOK ON A STUDENT...
...YOU NEVER GAVE UP ON THEM.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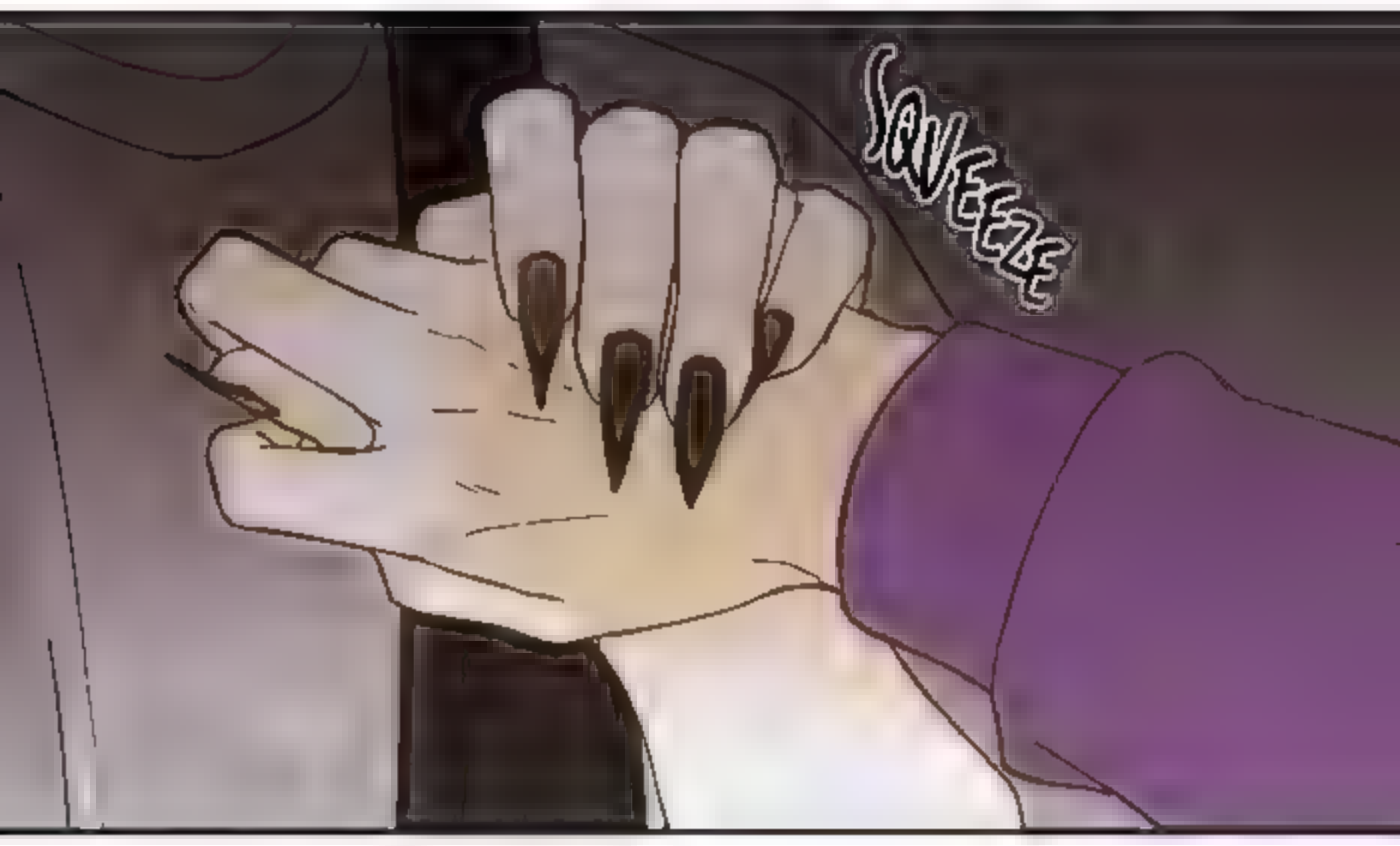
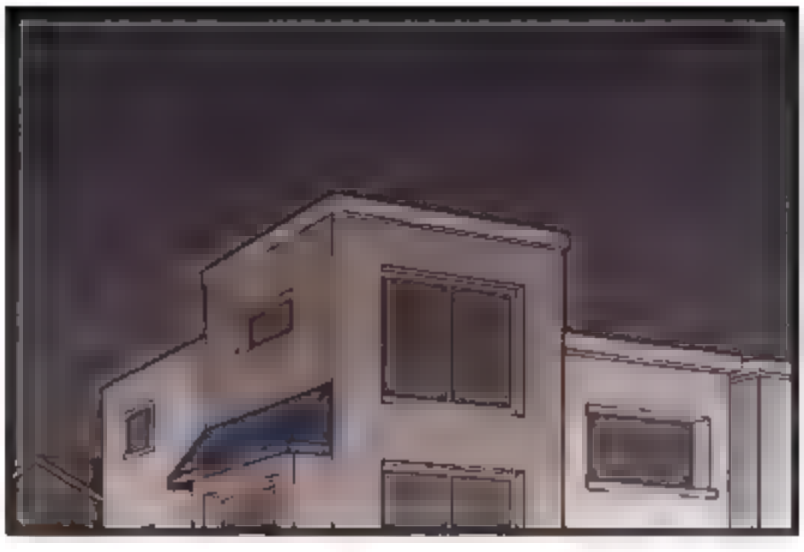
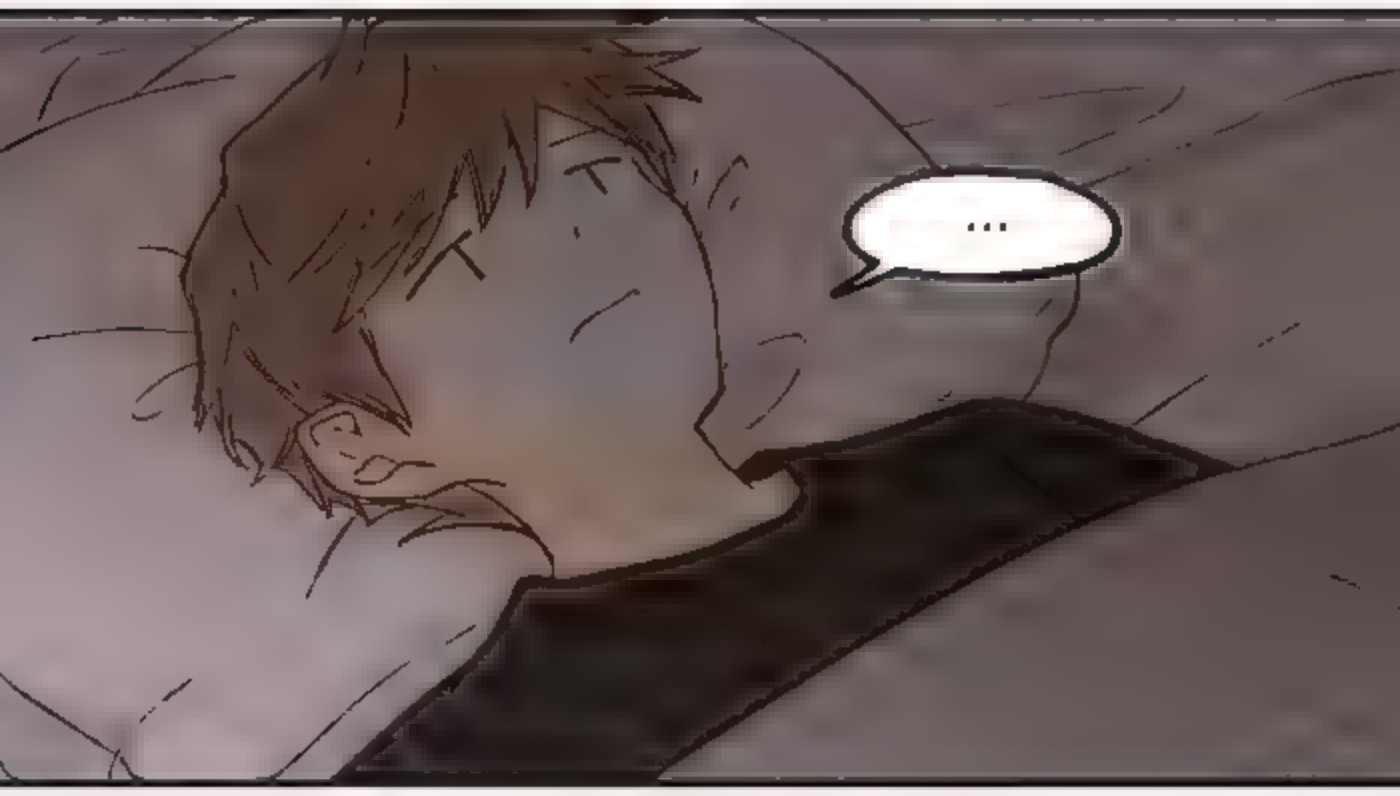

SQUEEZE

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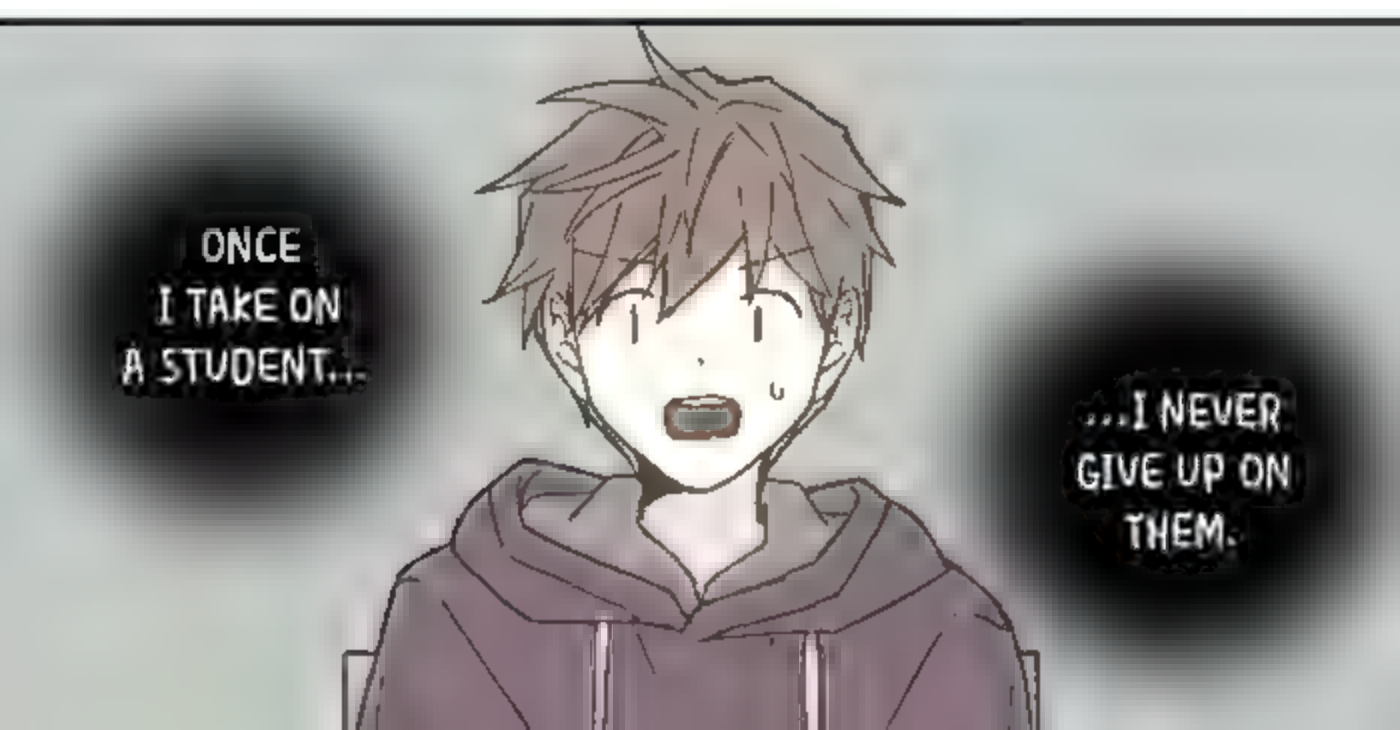
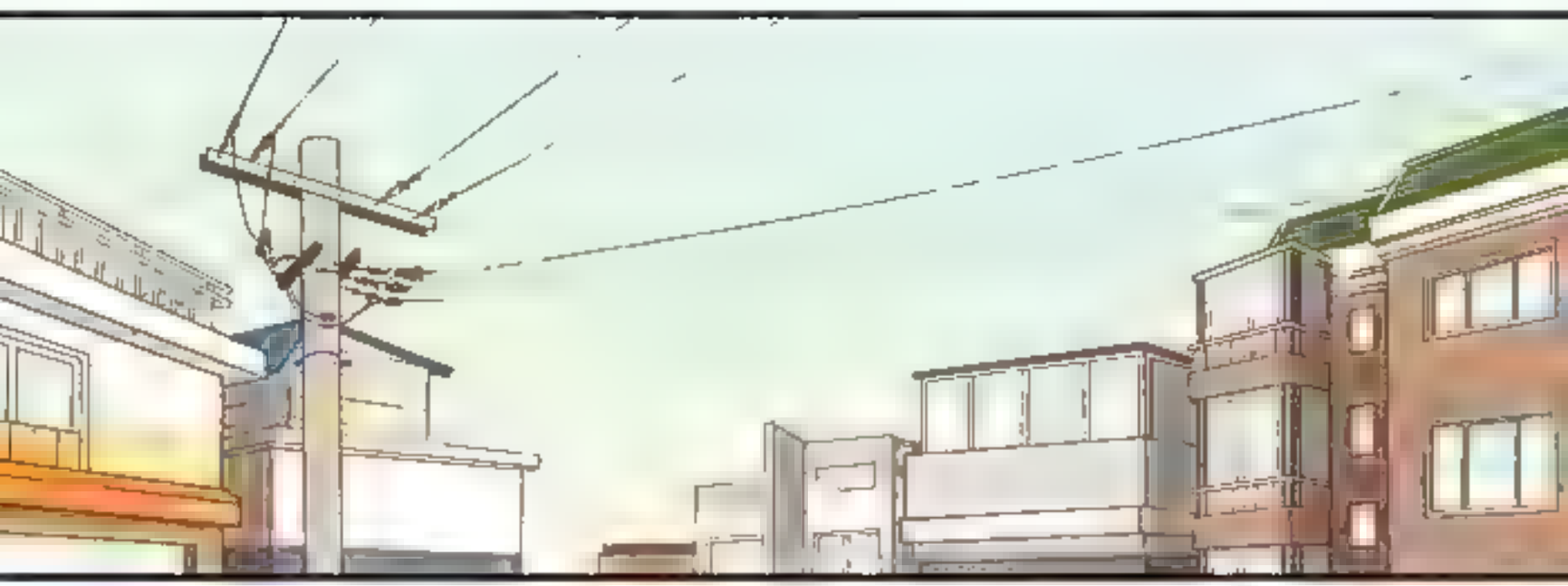

ONCE I TAKE ON A STUDENT...
...I NEVER GIVE UP ON THEM.

FLOP



SWISH
SWISH

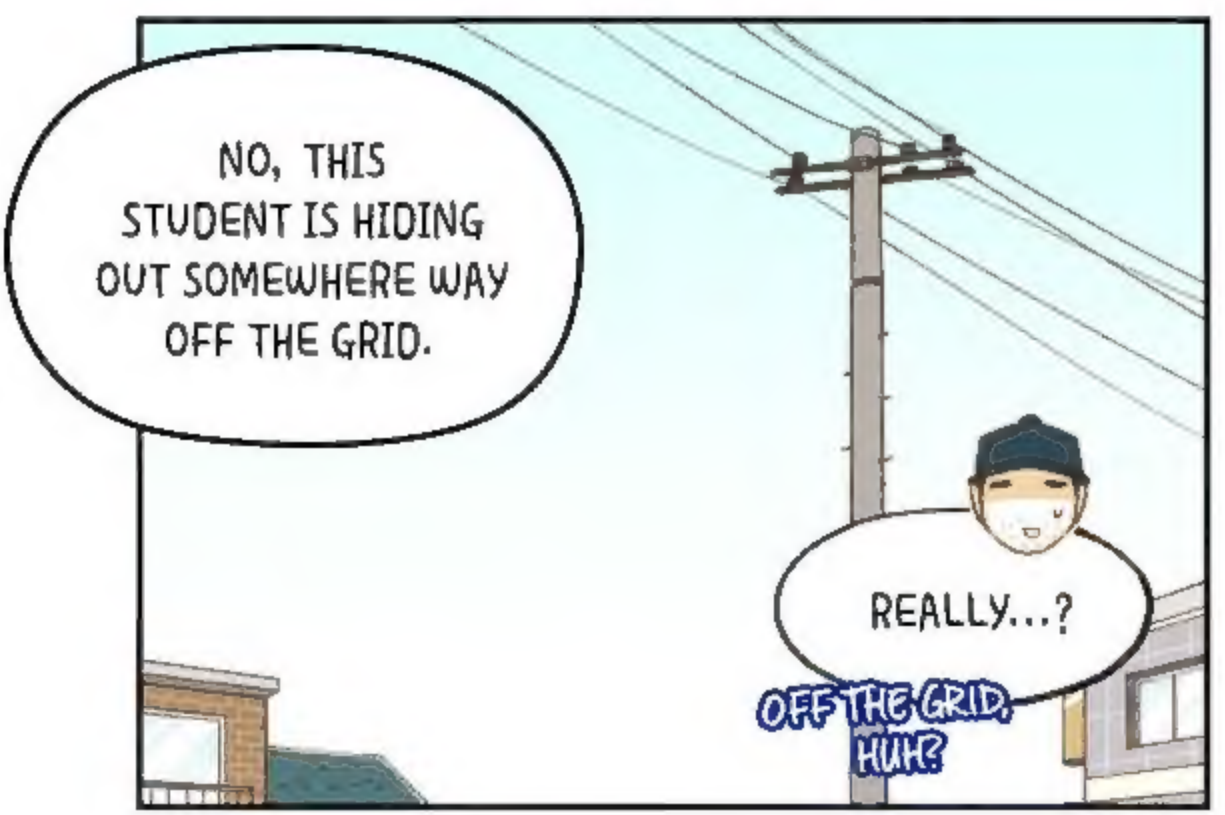
HMM?

MR. YOO?
WHERE ARE YOU GOING AT SUCH AN EARLY HOUR?
GOOD MORNING.

ONE OF MY STUDENTS RAN AWAY...
...SO I'M OFF TO FIND HIM!
FWOOSH
HUH?

AH, THEY'RE GIVING YOU TROUBLE LIKE THAT ONE KID LAST YEAR, HUH?

SO ARE YOU GONNA CHECK ALL THE LOCAL INTERNET CAFES LIKE LAST TIME?


NO, THIS STUDENT IS HIDING OUT SOMEWHERE WAY OFF THE GRID.
REALLY...?
OFF THE GRID. HUH?

THE ONLY WAY TO DEAL WITH RASCALS LIKE THOSE IS TO WHIP 'EM INTO SHAPE!
ROUGH HIM UP A BIT AND DRAG HIM BACK HOME!

SEE YOU SOON!